



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N - Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Name of Proposal: KLINKITAT HATCHERY TRANSFER

Description of Proposal: The proposed project would transfer ownership of the Klickitat Salmon Hatchery from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to the Yakama Nation. Yakama Nation will operate the hatchery, and Castile Falls and Lyle Falls #5 fishways, under the auspices of the Yakama-Klickitat Fisheries Project, in cooperation with WDFW. Through reservations in the title to the hatchery, WDFW retains reversionary rights if hatchery operations cease for more than two years, and maintains existing public access and timber rights. The objective of the transfer is to utilize the strengths of the partnership between the Yakama Nation and WDFW to improve production of salmon and steelhead in the Klickitat watershed. These efforts may result in increased natural production and increased harvest by both non-treaty and treaty fishers. Operation of the hatchery, including decisions regarding changes in production and changes in harvest, will continue to be governed by the same processes that presently govern hatchery operations. Annual fish releases must: be agreed through the Yakama-Klickitat Fisheries Project, follow Federal Court Orders from *U.S. v. Oregon*, satisfy Federal Endangered Species Act permits, and be consistent with the Mitchell Act funding objectives and associated Federal Legislation. Hatchery operations also require a NPDES permit, and this transfer does not change that requirement. When specific production changes and/or harvest changes are considered in the future, it is anticipated that consideration will include evaluation of possible environmental impacts.

Proponent: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Bill Tweit, Intergovernmental Resource Management, 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia WA 98501-1091, (360) 902-2723

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: See attached topographic map, the parcel proposed for transfer is located in Klickitat County, and is described as: Lots One (1) and Two (2) containing one hundred sixty-six and ninety-nine hundredths (166.99) acres. Washington, Klickitat County; the South half of the Northeast quarter (S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$) of Section 04, Township 06 North, Range 13 EastWM

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of the completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will **not act on this proposal for 30 days** from the date of issue below. Comments must be submitted by: **January 24, 2005**

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, Regulatory Services Section

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

Please contact: Teresa A. Eturaspe **Phone:** (360) 902-2575 **Fax:** (360) 902-2946 or
e-mail: habitatSEPA@dfw.wa.gov if you have questions or comments about this determination.

DATE OF ISSUE: December 23, 2004 **SIGNATURE:** 

SEPA Log Number: 04-084. dns